

HOW MORTON GAVE HIS CONSENT TO RUN.

The Governor Was Cautious About Entering the Race for President.

Would Not Agree if His Delegates Were Eventually to Be Traded Off.

Leaders of the Party Assured Him of Sincere and Undivided Work at St. Louis.

THE PART THAT DEPEW PLAYED.

The Effect Is to Throw Down the Bars for the Republican Gubernatorial Contest—Warner Miller's Chances the Best.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 1.—Governor Morton's candidacy for the Republican Presidential nomination was the chief subject of conversation at the Capitol to-day. During the Governor's reception in the Executive Chamber it was frequently referred to by those who shook hands with him, and in reply the Governor smiled. Congratulations were showered upon him at the reception which he and Mrs. Morton gave at the Executive Mansion, on Eagle street, but the Governor carefully refrained from expressing himself on the subject.

The matter of the Morton canvass was first decided upon as far back as December 11. A friend of his and a representative of a Republican State leader called on him that day and broached the subject. The Governor listened smilingly.

"Of course, you will understand, Governor," said this friend, "that if you go into this canvass it will be to win. It is folly to start into a matter of this im-

Warner Miller Indorses Morton's Candidacy.

Ex-Senator Warner Miller was asked last night whether a statement of Governor Morton's candidacy for the Presidency would be made by him. He said: "I know of no formal announcement of the kind, but that his friends are authorized to state that Governor Morton, yielding to the solicitations of his friends, has consented to become a candidate for the Presidency."

"The Governor will receive the full support of the Republicans of New York State and of other States as well, I believe, and from now on a thorough canvass will be made in behalf of his candidacy."

portance with the idea of eventually trading off your delegates to McKinley, Harrison, Reed or any other of the New York candidates to become a Presidential candidate who will remain until the very end."

MORTON FULLY ACQUIRES. To this the Governor said: "That is the only way in which I would allow my name to go before the convention."

"There is another thing, Governor," said this emissary. "The man who goes before the Republican National Convention with the solid backing of all the Republicans of this State must step out of the gubernatorial race."

"If I am the unanimous choice of the Republicans of New York State," replied Governor Morton, "I would not think of being a candidate for the gubernatorial nomination. To pursue any other course would be unfair to my friends and supporters."

The Governor then asked this friend what he thought of the age question, and whether his being seventy-two years old would not be against him.

"I don't see why it should, Governor," said this diplomatic emissary. "You have served as United States Minister to France with distinction, you have made a dignified and excellent Vice-President of the United States, you have been the Governor of the Empire State with credit and success. The White House is a mighty good place to die in."

The Governor laughed heartily at this remark, and said: "Well, what is the disposition among the State leaders?"

"They're all for you," was the response. That ended the interview. Governor Morton had diplomatically consented to run for the Republican Presidential nomination, provided he had the New York Republicans' solid support. He had agreed to step out of the gubernatorial race next year.

PLATT WANTS TO TAKE CHARGE. Then began the dancing around Thomas C. Platt, Chauncey M. Depew, Warner Miller and Benjamin F. Tracy. Mr. Platt, it is decisively stated, wanted to conduct the entire affair. To this Messrs. Depew, Miller and Tracy objected. Mr. Depew said he was entirely competent to express to Mr. Morton his (Depew's) sentiments. Mr. Miller declined absolutely to be "delivered" by Mr. Platt. General Tracy said he would personally communicate with Governor Morton.

The next step in the negotiations was taken on December 20, when a dinner was given in New York at General Tracy's house, at which all of the principals to the compact were present. The situation was thoroughly canvassed and the second dinner, which occurred on Monday night at the residence of Chauncey M. Depew, was arranged Governor Morton showed his physical strength by finishing his message to the legislature at noon, leaving on an early afternoon train, sitting up until a late hour on Monday night and returning to Albany on Tuesday morning in as good health and spirits as when he left. It can be positively stated that Mr. Platt, Mr. Miller, Mr. Depew and Mr. Tracy assured the Governor that he would be the choice of the Republicans of this State, not merely in a complimentary way, but first, last and all the time.

"Very well, gentlemen," said the Governor. "If my support from this State is to be sincere, undivided and permanent, you are at liberty to use my name as that of a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination."

WARNER MILLER FOR GOVERNOR. As the details leak out it becomes clear that Mr. Depew's influence was exerted strongly in favor of Mr. Morton's declaring himself a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination. After the dinner at General Tracy's house Mr. Depew visited Ellerslie for a day and a half, and urged Mr. Morton to permit the announcement of his candidacy in view of his disposition to make him the unanimous choice.

The direct effect of Mr. Morton's determination is to throw down the bars for a half score of candidates for the Republican gubernatorial nomination, including Warner Miller, Lieutenant-Governor Saxton, Comptroller Roberts and General E. A. McAlpin. There is good reason to believe that Governor Morton's candidacy for the Presidential nomination carries



with it the pledge that Warner Miller is to be the gubernatorial candidate. He wants the honor, and Mr. Platt is said to have promised him that he shall have it. In fact, the rumor is current here that Mr. Miller would not have pledged himself had he not been assured that he is to be the Republican nominee for Governor next Fall.

PLANS OF THE LEADERS. The Morton boom has taken hold here with a firm grasp and now overshadows the McKinley boom that was launched in Chautauque County. The Morton movement, it is confidently predicted, will include Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Georgia and Michigan, and in the event of a break in New England it will carry Vermont (Governor Morton's home State), Connecticut and Massachusetts.

The first step toward unanimous indorsement of Morton's candidacy was the resignation of State Comptroller Roberts as president of the State Club, which was organized by John E. Millholland, of New York City, as an anti-Platt organization. Mr. Roberts is preparing a statement which he will give out for publication to-morrow afternoon, in which he will indorse Governor Morton's candidacy and show why, in his judgment, Mr. Morton should be nominated. Mr. Platt and other prominent Republicans will also be interviewed to-morrow and give like statements.

These publications will be with Governor Morton's full knowledge and consent, as he is now satisfied that the Republicans of the State are anxious to give him a hearty and unqualified indorsement.

HOW MORTON GAVE HIS CONSENT TO RUN. Comptroller Roberts made a statement at midnight. It gives the official stamp to the Morton boom, and what Mr. Roberts says is understood to have the Governor's approval.

"The positive knowledge that Governor Morton is to be a candidate for President is received with great popular favor," he said. "It is unfair for a moment to assume that Governor Morton would sacrifice any of the distinction and honor which he has so ably won by being a stalking horse or a complimentary vote candidate. His candidacy means that he is to win and that he will stay in until the contest is decided in the St. Louis convention."

"His distinguished career in this political capital, his ability and his conservative judgment are the qualities to which his friends look confidently for success. It is a great thing in a political contest to have a candidate against whom no one has anything to say. This is true of Governor Morton, and, in addition, the party can point to the services performed with distinguished ability by him in many positions as a guaranty of what he will do in the highest office. I fully believe he will win."

MRS. MORTON RECEIVES.

Governor's Wife Inaugurates a Pleasant Change in Albany New Year's Day Festivities.

Albany, Jan. 1.—Though Mrs. Levi P. Morton is noted as a charming entertainer, she has probably never done anything to add more greatly to her popularity than the inauguration of the reception on New Year's Day, to supplant the old, formal affairs that former Governors gave.

This year, not only were the legislators, bankers and business men present, but hundreds of ladies called. Mrs. Morton also increased the hours of the reception, and she, the Governor and their corps of assistants welcomed the guests from 3 to 6 o'clock.

Governor Morton also held the usual public reception between 1 and 2 o'clock at the Executive Chamber. He was assisted by the members of his military staff, who were present in full uniform. The chamber was bare of decorations except that the State flag was unfurled in one of the east windows.

The Governor received many callers, among them Brigadier-General Oliver and the staff of Third Brigade, Colonel Fitch and the staff of the Tenth Battalion, N. G. S. N. Y., and the staff officers of various local military organizations, besides various political organizations, the captains of the Albany police, State officers, heads of State departments, clerks in Capitol departments and many others. The guests were introduced to the Governor by Colonel Sel den E. Marvin, Jr., the Governor's military secretary, and by Colonel Archibald Rogers, aide-de-camp on the Governor's staff.



Paint and Politicians—How

Cuff Memoranda in the Assembly



STATE LAWMAKERS BEGIN THEIR WORK.

Lieutenant-Governor Saxton Addresses the Senate on What Is to Be Done.

Both Houses Concur in a Strong Memorial on the Venezuelan Question.

It Declares That All Honorable Means of Settling the Difficulty Should Be Used.

THE NEW OFFICERS ARE CHOSEN. Several Bills Are Introduced and Routine Business Incident to Organization Speedily Disposed of and Adjournment Taken.

Albany, N. Y., Jan. 1.—On this, the first day of the year 1896, in the two Chambers, the Legislature of the State of New York convened at 11 o'clock.

The Senate proceedings were opened by prayer by the Rev. George Hite, Then Lieutenant-Governor Saxton addressed the Senate as follows:

"The Senate meets to-day under new constitutions. For the first time in the history of this body it is composed of fifty members. Nearly a century has elapsed since the adoption of that constitutional amendment, which permanently fixed the number of State Senators at thirty-two. That number remained unchanged until the present Senate came into existence. Every Senator here must feel that under the circumstances this is a notable occasion and an event of importance in the history of the State."

"I venture to assert that never, except possibly in great emergencies, have more difficult or delicate questions been presented to a legislative body than those which will come before you this session. The revised legislation makes it the duty of the lawmaking power, by implication at least, to prepare charters for cities of the several classes. It is altogether likely that you will also be called upon to say whether or not there shall be a Greater New York, and if your answer is in the affirmative you may be called upon to determine what kind of a charter shall be given to the greatest city on the Western Hemisphere. The whole matter should be dealt with not in a narrow, partisan spirit, but rather in a spirit of broad and high-minded statesmanship."

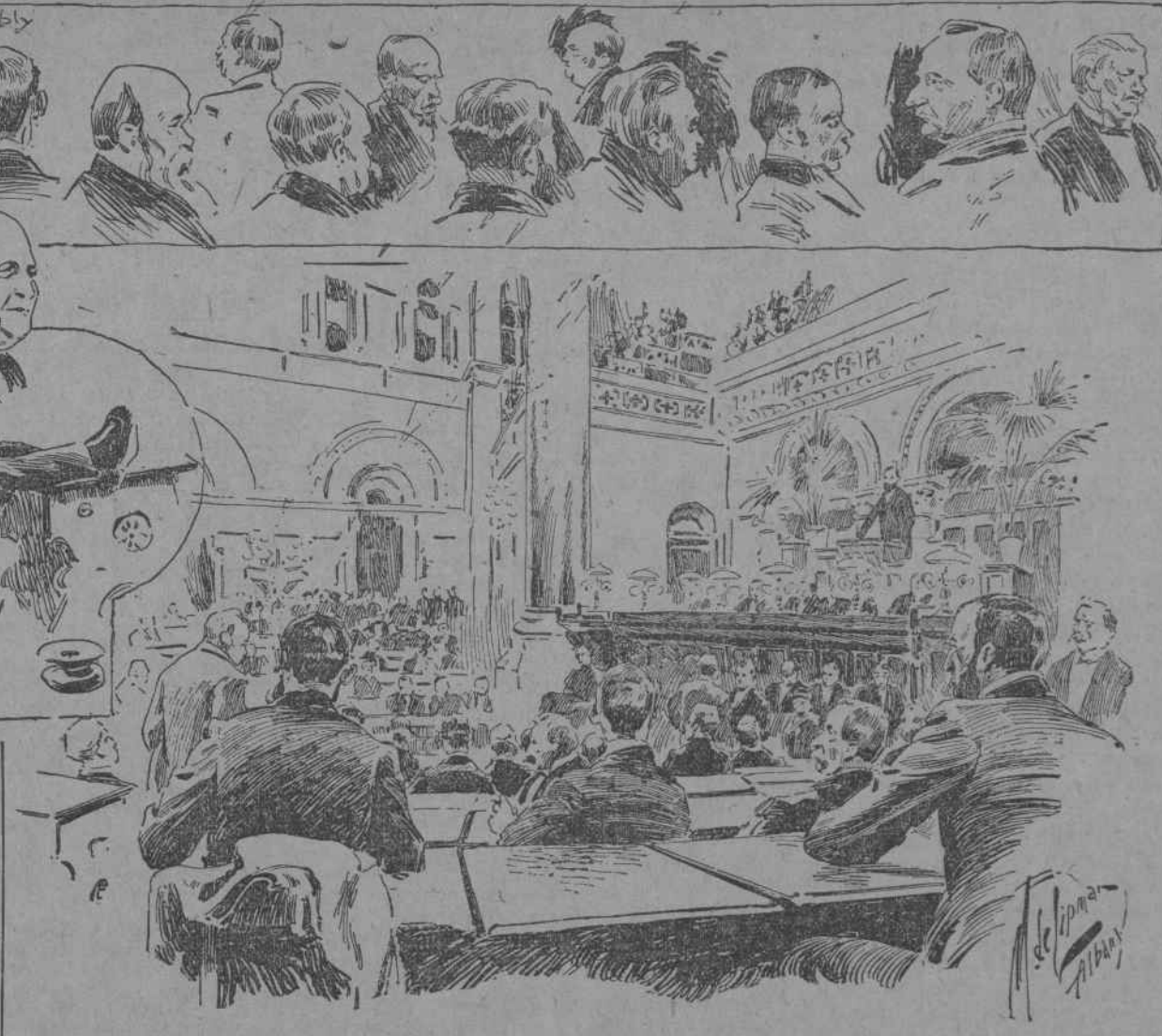
LAWYERS TO BE PASSED. Important legislation is also required in connection with our penal institutions. After the 1st of January next the inmates of those institutions cannot be employed in the manufacture of such articles as will compete in the markets with the products of free labor.

The present Excise law is attacked from opposite directions—from the direction of those who wish to make its provisions more stringent, and also from the direction of those who wish to enlarge the opportunities of the liquor dealers. It is evident that the question must be met fairly and squarely this session. In dealing with it the Senate will doubtless keep in view the interests and wishes of the great mass of the people rather than those of any particular class or occupation.

"The ballot law passed last Winter is very generally approved by the voters of the State. There is room for improvement, however."

"It is hardly necessary for me to assure you that while in this chair I am not a partisan. I shall endeavor to bear in mind at all times that I am here merely to aid you in the discharge of your duties by seeing to it that business is conducted in an orderly manner in accordance with the rules you establish and the recognized principles of parliamentary law."

At the conclusion of Lieutenant-Governor Saxton's address a dozen Senators, headed by Senator Ellsworth and Senator Cantor, were sworn in. These officers were then chosen,



Graphic Notes of the Scenes and Incidents Attending the Opening of the New York State Legislature, Jan. 1, 1896.

as nominated by the Republican caucus last night: Clerk, John S. Kenyon; sergeant-at-arms, Garrett J. Benson; doorkeeper, Nathan Lewis; stenographer, Edward Shaugnessy; postmaster, Stephen C. Green; assistant postmaster, Isaacone Inevitable; Caleb Stins; assistant janitors, A. B. Taylor, G. J. O. Kumerau; post office messengers, especially between the general committees, clerks and assistant doorkeepers.

THE VENEZUELA MEMORIAL. Senator Ellsworth then offered the following memorial, which was temporarily laid on the table for debate by Senator McCarran:

"It is proper that the Senate of the State of New York, convening at a time when the country is concerned about grave questions of international policy, to clearly state its position as being always in favor of the loyal maintenance of the right and dignity of the government of the United States, and its clear conviction that arbitration is the true, logical, intelligent, humane and honorable method of settling differences, especially between the great Christian nations of the world."

"That in conformity, as we believe, with the views of the people of this State, we are of the opinion that an arbitrary determination by any European power to fix the boundaries of its territory on this continent of America, so as to encroach upon any neighbor, would be an invasion of the rights of the people of the country affected and involve a violation of the essential principles of the Monroe doctrine. This to avoid the risk of erroneous conclusions about matters which the President has declared still open to investigation, it is our earnest counsel to await the report of the commission already empowered by Congress to examine all the facts in the Venezuelan dispute."

"That, realizing the waste of precious life, the wreck of financial prosperity and the horrors which would be the inevitable result of an armed conflict between England and the United States, we believe that every honorable means of settling any possible difference should be resorted to and exhausted before the amicable relations between these two great nations, which today stand before the world for the most advanced civilization, should be broken."

Senator Ellsworth was elected president pro tem after the reading of the Governor's message.

The Venezuelan memorial was then taken up, when Senator Cantor moved to amend by inserting the following at the beginning: "Resolved, That the Senate of the State of New York hereby approves of the doctrines and patriotic sentiments contained in the message of President Cleveland recently transmitted to the Congress of the United States in relation to the boundary dispute between Venezuela and Great Britain."

After a brief debate the resolution was lost, and the original memorial adopted unanimously. Bills were introduced authorizing the New York State Committee on the Atlantic exposition to transfer the New York State building to the piedmont Club.

Authorizing the City of New York to issue bonds to pay the expenses of the State under the act providing for State care of the insane.

Senator O'Grady, providing that no public employes in cities, except policemen and firemen, shall be required to wear a distinctive uniform, unless by direction of the Board of Aldermen in such cities, and that heads of departments must wear the uniform prescribed for their subordinates.

THE SENATE THEN ADJOURNED. It was eight minutes after 11 o'clock when Archie Baxter, as Clerk of the last Assembly, called the House to order. On the roll of the roll, it was found that 134 members were present, and Mr. O'Grady's motion to proceed to the election of a Speaker prevailed. The vote on Speaker resulted in the election of Hamilton Fish, of Putnam county.

Archie E. Baxter, of Chemung, was then chosen Clerk. Balloting resulted in the election of the following: Sergeant-at-Arms, Philip W. Reinhard, of New York; Prin-

pal Doorkeeper, Joseph Bauer, of Monroe; First Assistant Doorkeeper, F. W. Johnston, of Erie; Second Assistant Doorkeeper, Berton Hollenbeck, of Albany.

Mr. O'Grady then offered the memorial on the Venezuelan question, which was adopted by the Senate.

Mr. O'Grady spoke on the question, and moved the adoption of the memorial and the previous question. He then withdrew the motion for the previous question for Mr. Stauchfeld, who stated that he supposed this was the only time during the session that the Republicans and Democrats would ever meet upon the broad plane of harmony. He heartily approved of the memorial, which was unanimously adopted.

The House, at the hands of the Governor's private secretary, received the Governor's annual message, and listened while it was read by the Clerk. Several bills were introduced, and the members, in accordance with resolution, retired back of the rail. The drawing of seats then began and consumed an hour.

When this was finished Mr. Butts announced to the House the death of Patrick J. Kerrigan, Assemblyman-elect from New York City. Mr. Butts made a feeling speech, in which he eulogized the dead Assemblyman and then offered a resolution providing that the House adjourn out of respect.

The resolution was adopted, and the House took an adjournment until next Wednesday evening at 8:30 o'clock.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE WILL BE FOUND ON THE NINTH PAGE.

PAINT AND POLITICIANS.

Pale Drab Peculiarities of Albany Landlords and the Deep Blue Distress of Visiting Statesmen.

Albany, Jan. 1.—A genial scent and softness of fresh paint of a pale, drab color, greeted the statesmen from far and near this morning. Why the landlords of the leading hotels should invite all the house painters out of a job to participate in political uprisings is one of those social features which no man can explain. The fact remains, however, that the custom of repainting the house from top to bottom is religiously observed.

The usual plan pursued by the enterprising landlord is to employ two shifts of painters, so that the good work may proceed without interruption, night and day. His unpainted hotel may have been patronized during the past two years exclusively by the clerks and waiters, and an occasional drummer, but the advent of the first statesman is the signal for a fresh coat of paint, with plenty of pungent turpentine drier in it. As a special mark of favor, the distinguished visitors from other towns cannot fail to appreciate this little attention. Nothing pleases a man more than to wipe paint off the bar with a new suit of clothes, purchased especially for some other purpose. But he can always count on these glad surprises when the Legislature meets.

This pleasant commingling of politics and paint in and about headquarters has thus far proven the most entertaining feature of the session. Aside from the ecstatic delight of absorbing the fumes of paint with one's meals there is the added joy of doing it at a man's own expense. The building has not kept one awake all night. It seems to be absolutely necessary that the artists should paint the steam radiators before the heat is turned on, and also to guild, free of charge, the baggage of the occupant of the room.

The picture of an aged statesman standing shivering in his night robe while his pillows are being varnished is one of the most thrilling features of political life in the Senate. Painters are prohibited from wiping their brushes on the whiskers of Senators from interior districts, but are allowed to pay particular attention to swinging doors.

Little or no red paint has thus far been used for decorative purposes and the town may possibly escape.

PRETTY POLITICS IN MARYLAND.

Republicans Forced Democrats to Help Organize the Legislature.

Annapolis, Md., Jan. 1.—The Maryland Legislature was organized to-day by the election of William Cabell Bruce, of Baltimore, as president of the Senate and ex-Congressman Sylvester E. Mudd, of Charles County, as Speaker of the House of Delegates. What promised to be an annoying deadlock in the Senate was happily averted by the Democrats reconsidering their last

A WAR OF WORDS.

While the rehearsal was in progress, Mr. Albert Aronson found fault with several points. A war of words ensued between him and Mrs. Curtis, who is really "boss" of the show, which terminated in Mr. Aronson dropping the curtain and extinguishing the gas. The company forthwith trooped down to the Fifth Avenue Theatre, where matters were explained to Mr. Davis. He placed his stained and soiled curtains and the rehearsal proceeded without interruption.

When this was finished Mr. Butts announced to the House the death of Patrick J. Kerrigan, Assemblyman-elect from New York City. Mr. Butts made a feeling speech, in which he eulogized the dead Assemblyman and then offered a resolution providing that the House adjourn out of respect.

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AN ARONSON-MINER ROW.

"Gentleman Joe" Billed to Appear at Two Theatres by the Same Company.

Both Managers Insist They Have the Legal Rights and Courts Must Decide.

EACH SAYS CONTRACT IS BROKEN.

Albert Aronson Refused to Allow a Rehearsal and Dropped the Curtain, and M. B. Curtis Then Took His Play to Miner's Manager.

"Gentleman Joe," the New England play, is advertised for production at the Fifth Avenue and Bijou theatres on Monday night, by the same company, but with different leading men. As it is obviously an impossibility for the same people to appear in two places at once, the courts will have to decide which theatre is legally entitled to the production. Manager Aronson, of the Bijou, stoutly insists that he has the only true claim to the play; Mr. J. Charles Davis, Mr. Miner's representative, is equally positive as to his rights, and, as the Celtic gentleman observed, a mighty pretty fight as it stands."

"There was a preliminary skirmish 'Gentleman Joe' fight December 31, which Mr. Aronson was the victor. At Mrs. Curtis with M. B. Curtis, who owns the stipulated that he (Mr. Aronson) had right to substitute such persons as he saw fit. He at once opened negotiations with James T. Powers to play the leading part. Mr. Curtis objected, took the matter to court, and the decision was against him. Naturally Mr. Curtis and Mr. Aronson were then not on the friendliest terms. An open rupture took place on Tuesday afternoon when a rehearsal was called at the Bijou, and it is that very rehearsal that has brought Mr. Miner into the row."

A WAR OF WORDS.

While the rehearsal was in progress, Mr. Albert Aronson found fault with several points. A war of words ensued between him and Mrs. Curtis, who is really "boss" of the show, which terminated in Mr. Aronson dropping the curtain and extinguishing the gas. The company forthwith trooped down to the Fifth Avenue Theatre, where matters were explained to Mr. Davis. He placed his stained and soiled curtains and the rehearsal proceeded without interruption.



Closing the Door Against Him. Senator Coggeshall barred out of the Republican caucus at Albany. (Sketches by a Journal staff artist.)

night's caucus action and nominating Mr. Bruce in place of John Walter Smith. There was some very pretty politics in the deal. The Senate is made up of fourteen Democrats and twelve Republicans. Mr. Bruce is an independent Democrat, with very pronounced reform ideas, which are exceedingly objectionable to Senator Gorman and his satellites. Mr. Bruce refused to go into caucus with his Democratic brethren unless he was agreed upon as the nominee. To this Mr. Gorman and his friends would not for a moment consent. After waiting hours for Mr. Bruce to appear, the Democratic caucus late last night nominated Walter Smith. Meanwhile the Republicans had made overtures to Mr. Bruce. They offered to nominate him, and pledged every one of their twelve votes to his support.

Such action would have left the Senate in a deadlock—13 to 13. Believing that one or more of Mr. Bruce's Democratic friends would soon go to his support and thus give the Republicans the organization of the Senate, the Democratic managers this morning rescinded their caucus action and offered the presiding officer's chair to Mr. Bruce.

After rehearsal a consultation was held. Mr. Aronson, on the other hand, says he was justified in not allowing the rehearsal to proceed as the contract was not fully complied with. It stipulated, he declares, that the rehearsal was to be done with the proper scenery and costumes, but the company appeared in ordinary street attire and for a vestige of canvas was sent to the theatre.

PRACTICALLY ELECTED.

Mr. Davis, in speaking of the trouble last night, said he thought he was fully justified in his course by the actions of the Aronsons. "Mrs. Curtis was brutally treated at the rehearsal," said he, "and the company was practically ejected from the Bijou Theatre. Mr. Curtis was willing to substitute whomsoever Mr. Aronson chose, and had no right to the play. I will let Mr. Powers play the leading part. According to our lawyers, the contract has been broken by Mr. Aronson and we will fight him on those grounds. Dress rehearsal? That's all nonsense. He saw the play produced in New Jersey and there was no necessity for a dress rehearsal."

Rudolph Aronson snarled gruffly when he learned of Mr. Davis's determination to present the play Monday night. "We have the sole right to the play," said he, "and we will take legal measures to stop Mr. Davis from producing it. We will apply for an injunction to-morrow. We have the best end of this fight and can readily substantiate our claim. We have witnesses to prove that Mr. Powers was refused admission to the Fifth Avenue Theatre this afternoon when he appeared for rehearsal. Curtis wants to play the leading part himself and is looking for a loophole to crawl out of the contract. I am surprised a manager of Mr. Miner's reputation should should lend him such a trick. Come what may, he will be seen at the Bijou on Monday night."

Mr. Davis denied that Powers forced admission to the theatre. "He was called from the stage three times," said he, "and as he failed to appear, Mr. Curtis took his place. Mr. Miner has nothing to do with this row except that he owns the theatre."

Lawyer Abe Hummel said he had invited the Aronsons to a legal contest. "I have notified them that 'Gentleman Joe' will be produced at the Fifth Avenue on Monday night," he said, "and told them if they contemplated what stops we were ready and willing. They have taken the contract, not Mr. Curtis, and we are prepared to take the matter before any Judge, and are confident of winning the case. Depend upon it, 'Gentleman Joe,' with Mr. Curtis in the leading part, will be seen at the Fifth Avenue Theatre next Monday night."

Paint and Politicians—How statesmen at Albany Are Bothered by the Landlords' Mania for Giving Everything a "Fresh Coat."

(Sketches by a Journal staff artist.)